

Highlights

Introduction

The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation reports results from interviews with U.S. residents about their fishing, hunting, and other fish and wildlife-related recreation. This report focuses on 1991 participation and expenditures of U.S. residents 16 years of age and older.

The numbers reported should not be directly compared with those in previous survey reports because of changes in survey methodology in 1991. These changes were made to improve accuracy in the information provided. An explanation of the changes and trends information are provided in appendix B.

The report also provides information on participation in wildlife-related recreation, particularly of persons 6 to 15 years of age, in 1990. The 1990 information is provided in appendix C. Additional information about the scope and coverage of the Survey can be found in the Survey Background and Method section of this report. The remainder of this section defines important terms used in the Survey.

Wildlife-Associated Recreation

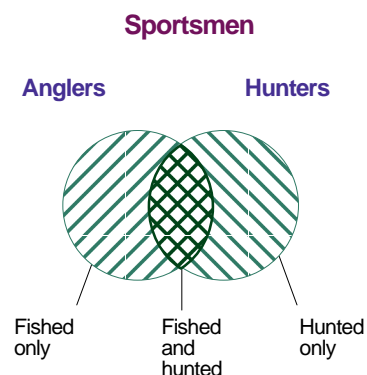
Wildlife-associated recreation includes fishing, hunting, and primary nonconsumptive wildlife activities. These categories are not mutually exclusive because many individuals enjoyed fish and wildlife in several ways in 1991. Wildlife-associated recreation is reported in two major categories: (1) fishing and hunting, and (2) primary nonconsumptive uses of wildlife resources such as observing, feeding, and photographing wildlife.

Fishing and Hunting

This Survey reports information about residents of the United States who fished or hunted in 1991, regardless of whether they were licensed. The fishing and hunting sections of this report are organized to report three groups: (1) sportsmen, (2) anglers, and (3) hunters.

Sportsmen

Sportsmen are persons who fish or hunt. Individuals who fished or hunted commercially in 1991 are reported as sportsmen only if they fished or hunted for recreation. The sportsmen group is composed of the three subgroups in the diagram below: (1) those who fish and hunt, (2) those who only fish, and (3) those who only hunt. The total number of sportsmen is not equal to the sum of anglers and hunters because those people who both fish and hunt are not counted twice.



Anglers

Anglers are sportsmen who only fish plus those who fish and hunt. The angler group includes not only licensed hook and line anglers, but also those who have no license and those who use special methods such as spears for fishing. Three types of fishing are reported: (1) freshwater, excluding the Great Lakes, (2) Great Lakes, and (3) saltwater. Since many anglers enjoy more than one type of fishing, the total number of anglers is less than the sum of the three types of fishing.

Hunters

Hunters are sportsmen who only hunt plus those who hunt and fish. The hunter group includes not only licensed hunters using common hunting practices, but also those who have no license and those who engage in hunting with a bow and arrow, muzzle-loader, other primitive firearm, or a pistol or handgun. Four types of hunting are reported: (1) big game, (2) small game, (3) migratory bird, and (4) other animals. Since many hunters enjoy more than one type of hunting, the sum of hunters for big game, small game, migratory bird, and other animals exceeds the total number of hunters.

Primary Nonconsumptive Wildlife Activities

Since 1980, the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation has included information on nonconsumptive activities in addition to fishing and hunting. However, the 1991 Survey, unlike the 1980 and 1985 Surveys, reports data only for primary nonconsumptive activities.

Secondary nonconsumptive activities, such as incidentally observing wildlife while pleasure driving, are not included.

Many people, including sportsmen, enjoy wildlife-associated recreation other than fishing or hunting. These nonharvesting activities, such as observing, feeding, or photographing fish and other wildlife, are called nonconsumptive wildlife activities. Two types of nonconsumptive activity are reported: (1) nonresidential and (2) residential. Because some people participate in more than one type of nonconsumptive wildlife activity, the sum of participants in each type will be greater than the total number of nonconsumptive participants. Only those engaged in activities whose primary purpose was nonconsumptive are included

in the Survey. The two types of nonconsumptive wildlife activities are defined below.

Primary Nonresidential

This group includes persons who take trips or outings of at least 1 mile for the primary purpose of observing, feeding, or photographing fish and wildlife. Trips to fish or hunt or scout and trips to zoos, circuses, aquariums, and museums are not considered nonconsumptive wildlife activities.

Primary Residential

This group includes those whose activities are within 1 mile of home and involve one or more of the following: (1) closely observing or trying to identify birds or other wildlife, (2) photographing wildlife, (3) feeding birds or other wildlife on a regular basis, (4) maintaining natural areas of at least one-quarter acre for which benefit to wildlife is the primary purpose, (5) maintaining plantings (shrubs, agricultural crops, etc.) for which benefit to wildlife is the primary concern, or (6) visiting public parks within 1 mile of home for the primary purpose of observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife.

Summary

The Survey revealed that 108.7 million U.S. residents 16 years old and older participated in some form of wildlife- related recreation activity in 1991. During that year, 35.6 million people in the United States fished, 14.1 million hunted, and 76.1 million enjoyed at least one type of nonconsumptive recreation activity for which enjoying wildlife was the primary purpose.

The information for participation and expenditures of persons 16 years old and older is based on estimates from the detailed phase of the 1991 Survey. This information is not comparable with estimates from previous Surveys because of changes in survey methodology in 1991. A complete explanation is provided in appendix B along with a trends analysis that takes these differences into account.

Persons 6 to 15 years old were not included in the second phase (detailed) inter-

views of 1991 participants. However, an estimate of their participation was calculated using data from the 1985 and 1991 screening surveys. Both screening sources had nearly identical proportions of 6 to 15 year-old participants to total participants (.09 for hunting; .21 for fishing; and .16 for nonconsumptive activity). Based on these percentages, there were 1.4 million hunters, 9.5 million anglers, and 14.5 million nonconsumptive participants 6 to 15 years old in 1991. More information on 6 to 15 year olds is provided in appendix C. For the rest of this report all 1991 information pertains to participants 16 years old and older unless otherwise indicated.

Among anglers, hunters, and nonconsumptive participants there was a considerable overlap in activities. In 1991, 69 percent of the hunters also fished, and 27 percent of the anglers also hunted. In addition, 50 percent of the anglers and 57 percent of the hunters also participated in primary nonconsumptive activities, while 26 percent of all primary nonconsumptive participants reported hunting and/or fishing during the year.

Total Wildlife-Associated Recreation	
Participants	108.7 million
Expenditures	\$59 billion
Sportsmen	
Total participants	40.0 million
Anglers	35.6 million
Hunters	14.1 million
Total days	747 million
Anglers	511 million
Hunters	236 million
Total expenditures	\$41 billion
Anglers	\$24 billion
Hunters	\$12 billion
Unspecified	\$ 5 billion
Detail does not add to total because of multiple responses.	

Nonconsumptive	
Total participants	76.1 million
Residential	73.9 million
Nonresidential	30.0 million
Total expenditures	\$18.1 billion

Detail does not add to total because of multiple responses.

Expenditures associated with wildlife-related recreation totaled \$59.0 billion in 1991. Trip-related costs totaled \$22.8 billion, while \$28.5 billion was spent on equipment, and \$7.8 billion was spent on other items.

Anglers spent a total of \$24.0 billion, hunters \$12.3 billion, and primary nonconsumptive participants \$18.1 billion.

Trends

Wildlife-related recreation continues to be popular among millions of Americans. Trend in-

formation from the screening phases of the 1991 and 1985 Surveys show an increase of 11 percent in the number of anglers 6 years old and older from 1985 to 1990. Fishing expenditures increased by 27 percent. The number of hunters 6 years of age and older showed an increase of 3 percent, and the expenditures for hunting increased by 7 percent.

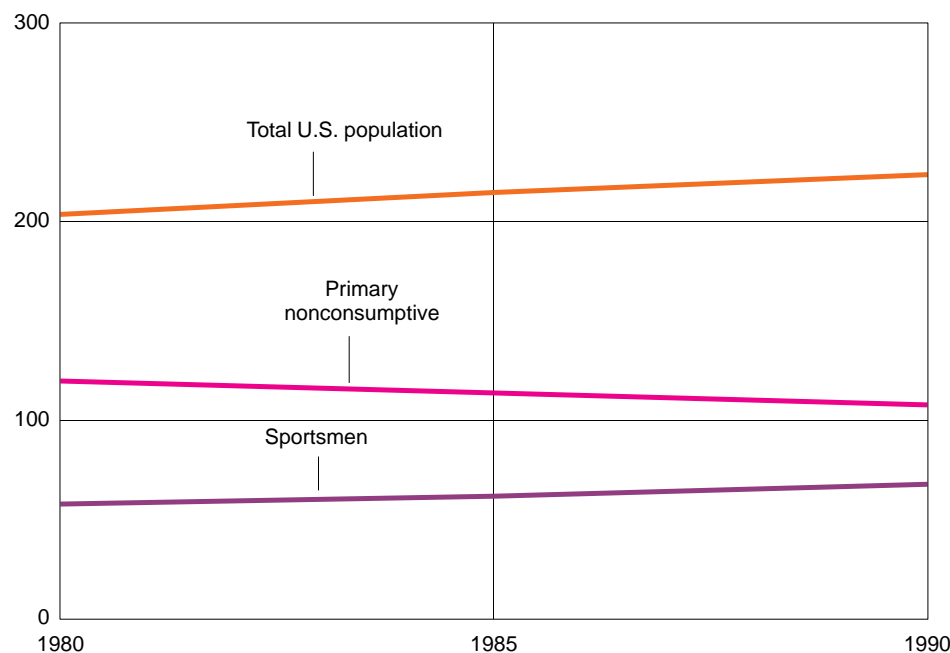
The number of nonconsumptive recreationists 6 years old and older who took trips away from home for the primary pur-

pose of observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife increased by 10 percent from 1985 to 1990. Those who enjoyed these activities around their homes decreased by 6 percent.

This trend information is based on estimates from the screening phases of the Surveys and not on estimates from the detailed phases of the Surveys. As explained in appendix B, the estimates from the detailed phases are not directly comparable.

Trends in Wildlife-Associated Recreation: 1980-1990

(In millions)



Note: U.S. Population 6 years old and older
Estimates from screening phases of Surveys

Source: Appendix B

Fishing And Hunting

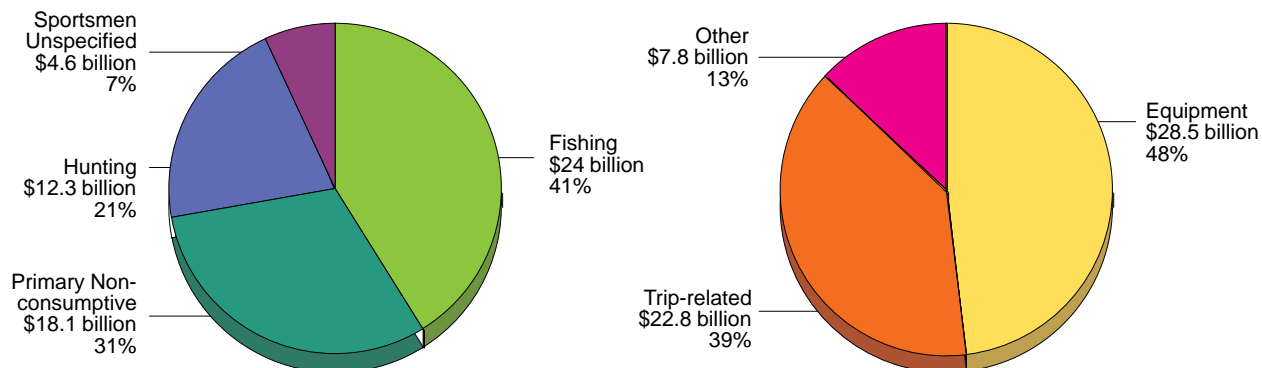
In 1991, 40 million U.S. residents 16 years old and older went fishing and/or hunting. More specifically, 35.6 million fished and 14.1 million hunted. The overlap is accounted for by those who both fished and hunted, 9.7 million.

In 1991, expenditures by sportsmen totaled \$40.9 billion. Trip-related expenditures, including those for food and lodging and transportation, were \$15.3 billion, 37 percent of all fishing and hunting expenditures. Total equipment expenditures amounted to \$18.9 bil-

lion, 46 percent of the total. Other expenditures such as those for magazines, membership dues, contributions, land leasing and ownership, and licenses, stamps, tags, and permits accounted for \$6.7 billion, or 16 percent of all sportsmen's expenditures.

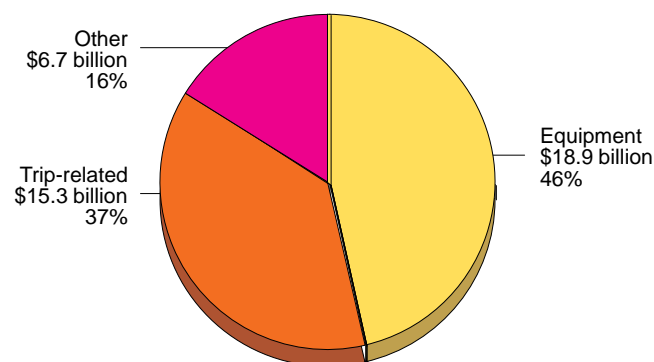
Expenditures for Wildlife-Related Recreation

(Total expenditures: \$59 billion)



Expenditures by Sportsmen

(Total expenditures: \$40.9 billion)



Nonconsumptive Wildlife-Associated Recreation

Observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife was enjoyed by 76.1 million people 16 years old and older in 1991. Among this group, 30 million people took trips for the primary purpose of enjoying wildlife

while 73.9 million stayed within a mile of their homes to participate in primary nonconsumptive activities.

In 1991, nonconsumptive participants spent \$18.1 billion. Trip-related expenses, including those for food, lodging, and transportation, totaled \$7.5 billion, 41 percent of the total ex-

penditures. A total of \$9.6 billion was spent on equipment, 53 percent of all nonconsumptive expenses. The remaining \$1.1 billion, or 6 percent of the total, was spent on magazines, membership dues, and contributions to conservation or wildlife-related organizations.

Expenditures for Primary Nonconsumptive Participants

(Total expenditures: \$18.1 billion)

